I wanted to voice my opinion in <u>opposition</u> to Montgomery County mandating vaccine passports to enter small businesses. As we are all aware, vaccines are ineffective against the Omicron strain, so there is no health benefit to only allowing the vaccinated to frequent businesses around the county as many of our population has now acquired natural immunity with or without the vaccine. In addition, instituting these mandates will further negatively impact smaller businesses, who have already suffered many hardships during past mandates and lock downs. This will mean decreased revenue for the county. Lastly, as has been the usual pattern locally and nationwide, there will be likely court battles to follow a mandate, which will be costly for the county as well.

Thank you, Elena Regitz